



Board of Elders Meeting January 14, 2013

Roll Call:

- Elders present: Tim Gibson, Mark Culton, Scott Holwick, Shawn Van Doren, Dick Bickings, Shawn Sommons, Wayne Batten, Jason Hoy, Andy Brimer
- Elder excused: Mike Capaldi

Prayer and Devotion:

- Dick continued the Board's review of the Bible Fellowship Church Articles of Faith. This month we reviewed and discussed Article 23: Civil Government.
- The men shared in a time of thanksgiving and prayer.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made to approve the minutes from (1) the December 9, 2012 Annual Congregational Budget Meeting and (2) the December 10, 2012 Elders Meeting, seconded and approved.

Financial Report:

- Treasurer Andy Brimer reviewed the financial report. Motion was made to approve the report, seconded and approved. (Attachment #1)
- Motion was made to transfer the \$50K gift that was given in December to the Building Fund.

Miracle Month Designations:

- Wayne Batten shared the recommendations from the Missions Committee for the designations for the Miracle Month giving. The Missions Committee desired to give additional Faith Promise money to bring the total close to \$41K. Motion was made to approve the Missions Committee's recommendations, seconded and approved. Dick Bickings abstained.
- A report of this will be given at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

New Members: New membership applications were reviewed and discussed.

- Helen Larynjoh (contingent on baptism)
Mary Ann Gugliuzza (contingent on a contact by Jason for absenteeism)
Motion was made to approve both people for membership, seconded and passed.
- New Membership class starting on Wednesday, January 23, 2013.

Nomination of Delegates for Annual Conference:

Motion was made to nominate Wayne Batten and Shawn Van Doren as delegates to Annual Conference, and Andy Brimer as the alternate delegate, seconded and passed.

Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda Items:

Pastoral Reports
Financial Update
Annual Report
Miracle Month and Missions
Vote for Annual Conference Delegates
Baptisms

Pastoral Reports: The pastoral monthly reports are attached:

- Senior Pastor Report, Tim Gibson (Attachment #2)
- Pastor of Discipleship, Dick Bickings (Attachment #3)
- Pastor of Congregational Care, Jason Hoy (Attachment #4)
- Pastor of Youth, Mark Culton (Attachment #5)

Vision Casting:

- **Solidifying Purpose: Worship God, Edify the Saints, Evangelize the Lost**
 - Purpose Statement – Discussed the intended audience for the words we choose for our purpose statement. The primary reason for choosing them is for the people who are at Ebenezer. The concepts are not going to change. Action Item: The Elders will send suggestions to Mark for compilation.
 - Logo – Scott is going to work on creating a new logo for the church.
- **Strategic Planning & Church-wide Prayer**

Tim met with Wayne Batten and Rich Mastronardo to discuss reviving the strategic planning committee. They discussed what the purpose of this group might be and the direction – physical, spiritual, pragmatic. The conclusion from that meeting is the leaders are going to ask God for direction through fasting and prayer on how we are going to accomplish the purpose of EBFC and we are going to ask the congregation to join with us.
- **Where are we going from here?**

We discussed the idea of Tim preaching from the book of Nehemiah on January 27.
Corporate fasting and prayer at the church will start in the month of February on Thursdays.

Election of Officers:

- President – Wayne Batten was nominated to serve as President of the Board. Motion was supported, and it passed unanimously.
- Vice President – Shawn Sommons was nominated to serve as Vice President. The motion was supported and it passed unanimously.
- Secretary – Mike Capaldi was nominated to serve as Secretary. The motion was supported and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Andy Brimer
Acting Secretary to the Board of Elders

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - 2012 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET REPORT / COMPARISON

GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

ASSETS	31-Dec-12	31-Dec-11	\$ Change	Income	Dec YTD	Budget	Variance	%YTD
Assets - Checking/Savings								
18000 · Checking (KNBT)	478,672.09	404,429.87	74,242.22	1100 · Offerings / Gifts	935,077.48	855,135.00	79,942.48	109%
18001 · CDs (KNBT)	66,808.26	66,769.97	38.29	1400 · Interest	629.44	800.00	-170.56	79%
19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	90,589.19	116,347.12	-25,757.93	1700 · Memorials	1,110.00	0.00	1,110.00	*
19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	5,393.62	3,107.51	2,286.11	1900 · BCS / Bldg Use	6,740.80	4,728.00	2,012.80	143%
Total Checking/Savings	641,463.16	590,654.47	50,808.69	Total Income	943,557.72	860,663.00	82,894.72	110%
TOTAL ASSETS	641,463.16	590,654.47	50,808.69	Expenses				
LIABILITIES				2000 · General Finance	49,999.06	35,517.04	14,482.02	141%
Current Liabilities				3000 · Discipleship	27,821.17	29,300.00	-1,478.83	95%
2111 · Direct Deposit Liabilities	0.00	2.96	-2.96	5000 · Evangelism	2,536.59	1,800.00	736.59	141%
901 · Building Fund	14,881.99	-1,123.39	16,005.38	6000 · Missions	151,422.29	150,720.00	702.29	100%
902 · Capital Improvements	0.00	5,746.54	-5,746.54	7000 · Deacon	103,338.21	80,420.00	22,918.21	128%
903 · Transportation Fund	8.00	17,243.00	-17,235.00	8000 · Worship	5,877.06	7,100.00	-1,222.94	83%
904 · Scholarships	2,286.51	2,090.20	196.31	9000 · Office/Admin	18,471.16	20,550.00	-2,078.84	90%
905 · Faith Promise	49,488.54	19,656.44	29,832.10	10000 · Congregational Care	1,824.00	2,250.00	-426.00	81%
907 · Benevolence Fund	6,042.91	13,340.27	-7,297.36	11000 · Compensation	537,577.89	533,005.96	4,571.93	101%
908 · Music Fund	28.20	-71.80	100.00	20000 · Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
910 · Angel Food Ministries	0.00	0.00	0.00	Total Expense	898,867.43	860,663.00	38,204.43	104%
911 · Year End Accruals	5,990.99	11,536.85	-5,545.86	Net Ordinary Income	44,690.29	0.00	44,690.29	
912 · Run For The Children	260.11	700.23	-440.12	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	9,250.00	0.00	9,250.00	
914 · HRA	2,489.17	-118.43	2,607.60	Net Income	35,440.29	0.00	35,440.29	
915 · Youth Summer Missions	1,806.33	0.00	1,806.33					
100 · Payroll Liabilities	6,779.17	5,690.65	1,088.52	DESIGNATED FUNDS				
Total Other Current Liabilities	90,061.92	74,693.52	15,368.40	Income				
Long Term Liabilities				901 · Building Fund	16,998.78	993.40	16,005.38	
810 · Building Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00	903 · Transportation Fund	6,840.00	24,075.00	-17,235.00	
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	904 · Scholarships	3,094.81	2,898.50	196.31	
Total Liabilities	90,061.92	74,693.52	15,368.40	905 · Faith Promise	51,569.10	21,737.00	29,832.10	
				907 · Benevolence Fund	23,338.40	30,635.76	-7,297.36	
				908 · Music Fund	100.00	0.00	100.00	
EQUITY				OTHER FUNDS				
900 · Retained Earnings	923,839.75	888,479.69	35,360.06	902 · Capital Improvements	20,213.46	25,960.00	-5,746.54	
Net Income	35,440.29	35,360.06	80.23	910 · Angel Food Ministries	0.00	0.00	0.00	
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00	911 · Year End Accruals	2,607.60	5,545.86	-2,938.26	
Total Equity	551,401.24	515,960.95	35,440.29	912 · Run For The Children	8,699.81	9,139.93	-440.12	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	641,463.16	590,654.47	50,808.69	914 · HRA	9,250.00	9,250.00	0.00	
				915 · Youth Summer Missions	1,806.33	0.00	1,806.33	
				Total Other Current Liabilities	144,518.29	130,235.45	14,282.84	

Andrew Burns
Treasurer
Date 11/14/13

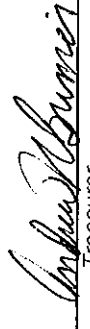
* Memorials in the 2012 Budget are \$0.00

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - DECEMBER 2012 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET REPORT / COMPARISON

GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

ASSETS	31-Dec-12	30-Nov-12	\$ Change	December	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Assets - Checking/Savings						
18000 · Checking (KNBT)	478,672.09	377,092.28	101,579.81	141,351.18	71,261.25	70,089.93
18001 · CDs (KNBT)	66,808.26	66,808.26	0.00	38.37	66.66	-28.29
19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	90,589.19	90,579.39	9.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	5,393.62	5,393.62	0.00	1,094.52	394.00	700.52
Total Checking/Savings	641,463.16	539,873.55	101,589.61	142,484.07	71,721.91	70,762.16
TOTAL ASSETS						
	641,463.16	539,873.55	101,589.61			
LIABILITIES						
Current Liabilities						
2111 · Direct Deposit Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00			
901 · Building Fund	14,881.99	13,420.99	1,461.00			
902 · Capital Improvement Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00			
903 · Transportation Fund	8.00	8.00	0.00			
904 · Scholarships	2,286.51	3,366.51	-1,080.00			
905 · Faith Promise	49,488.54	19,833.93	29,654.61			
907 · Benevolence Fund	6,042.91	6,903.87	-860.96			
908 · Music Fund	28.20	28.20	0.00			
910 · Angel Food Ministries	0.00	0.00	0.00			
911 · Year End Accruals	5,990.99	5,990.99	0.00			
912 · Run For The Children	260.11	3,693.33	-3,433.22			
914 · HRA	2,489.17	3,863.65	-1,374.48			
915 · Youth Summer Missions	1,806.33	0.00	1,806.33			
100 · Payroll Liabilities	6,779.17	6,623.24	155.93			
Total Other Current Liabilities	90,061.92	63,732.71	26,329.21			
Long Term Liabilities						
810 · Building Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Total Liabilities	90,061.92	63,732.71	26,329.21			
EQUITY						
900 · Retained Earnings	923,839.75	923,839.75	0.00			
Net Income	35,440.29	-39,820.11	75,260.40			
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00			
Total Equity	551,401.24	476,140.84	75,260.40			
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	641,463.16	539,873.55	101,589.61			


 Treasurer

1/14/13
 Date

Income

1100 · Offerings / Gifts	141,351.18	71,261.25	70,089.93
1400 · Interest	38.37	66.66	-28.29
1700 · Memorials	0.00	0.00	0.00
1900 · BCS / Bldg Use	1,094.52	394.00	700.52
Total Income	142,484.07	71,721.91	70,762.16

Expenses

2000 · General Church Finance	5,892.91	665.80	5,227.11
3000 · Discipleship Ministries	4,663.90	1,374.15	3,289.75
5000 · Evangelism Ministries	2,401.85	50.00	2,351.85
6000 · Missions	400.00	19,000.00	-18,600.00
7000 · Deacon Ministries	9,666.21	5,749.90	3,916.31
8000 · Worship	1,089.90	465.89	624.01
9000 · Office Expenses	2,626.41	2,216.24	410.17
1000 · Congregational Care	30.00	160.00	-130.00
11000 · Compensation	40,452.49	46,370.10	-5,917.61
20000 · Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expense	67,223.67	76,052.08	-8,828.41

Net Ordinary Income

75,260.40 -4,330.17 79,590.57

Net Fund Transfer between Accts.

0.00 0.00 0.00

Net Income

75,260.40 -4,330.17 79,590.57

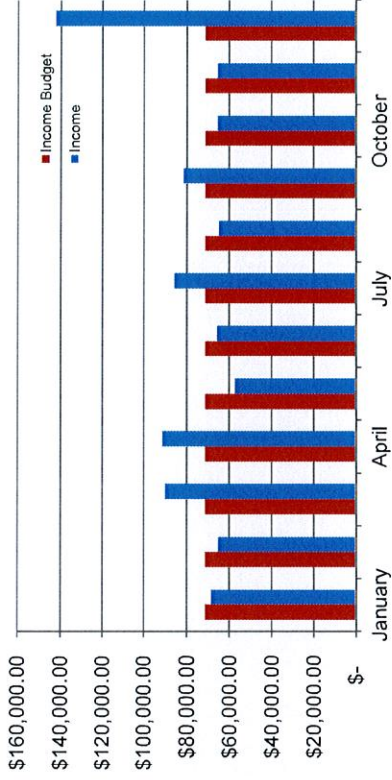
DESIGNATED FUNDS

Income	Expenses	Net Income
901 · Building Fund	0.00	1,461.00
903 · Transportation Fund	0.00	0.00
904 · Scholarships	300.00	1,380.00
905 · Faith Promise	34,025.61	4,371.00
907 · Benevolence Fund	2,335.00	3,195.96
908 · Music Fund	0.00	0.00

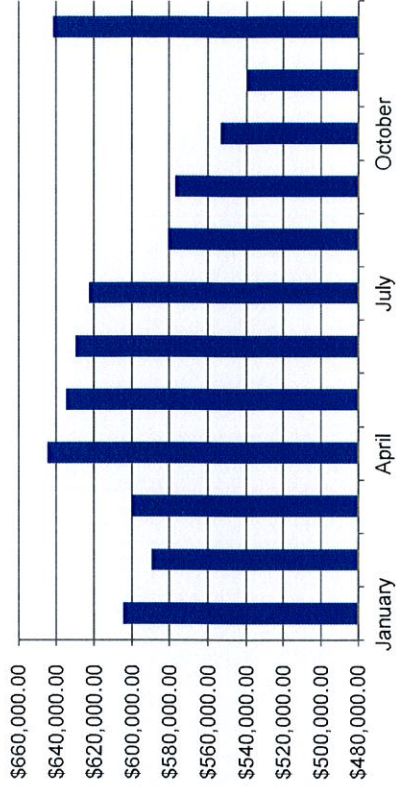
OTHER FUNDS

902 · Capital Improvement Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
910 · Angel Food Ministries	0.00	0.00	0.00
911 · Year End Accruals	2,607.60	0.00	2,607.60
912 · Run For The Children	0.00	3,433.22	-3,433.22
914 · HRA	0.00	3,982.08	-3,982.08
915 · Youth Summer Missions	1,806.33	0.00	1,806.33
Total Other Current Liabilities	42,535.54	16,362.26	26,173.28

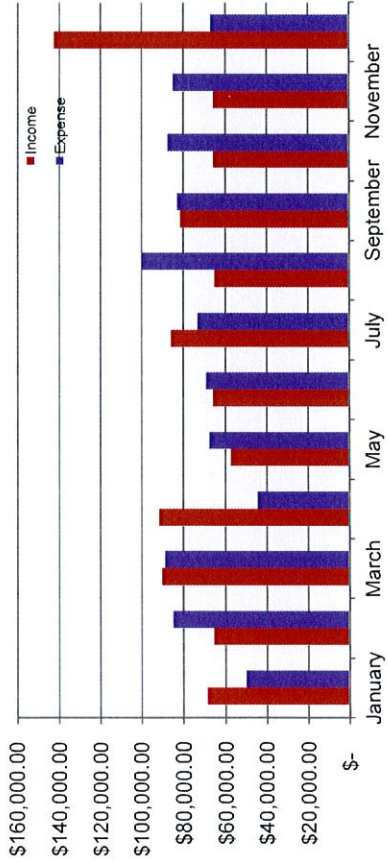
2012 Income/Budget



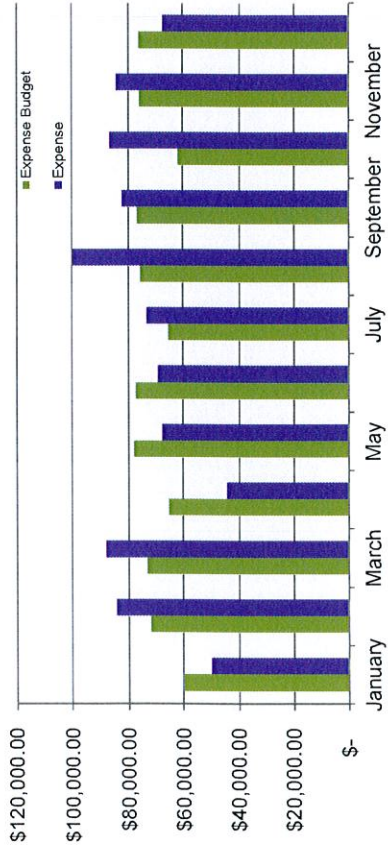
2012 Assets



2012 Income/Expenses



2012 Expenses/Budget



Pastor Tim's Ministry Report
January 14, 2013

Attachment #2

Preaching: I continue to preach the book of Philippians with personal joy and discovery. My prayer is that the Word of God is reaching the hearts of the people. During the month of December 2012, we refocused on Christmas entitling the series - "More than a Holiday." The second sermon was purposefully devoted to Christ being our Savior. The message was very evangelistic. One woman particularly responded that morning with a strong desire to be saved.

Counseling: I continue to meet with one man for discipleship on a regular basis. Also I am continually meeting with congregants for spiritual guidance and prayer.

Administration/Staff: We began reading MacArthur's book, Ashamed of the Gospel among the staff. Overall it is well received. We are trying to devise simple principles from the book, which can govern our ministry philosophy here at EBFC. The first principle that we have devised is that ministry should be "Word-Driven" rather than entertainment driven or even driven by a "market" mentality and pragmatism. I assured the staff that the Elders have embraced this kind of ministry philosophy.

New Class: Christian Basic Beliefs: Beginning March 13, I will begin teaching a class from Grudem's book: Christian Beliefs: 20 basics every Christians Should Know. Over the holiday I had a burden for our infant believers. There are several that have been baptized and are asking me where do we go from here. I was going to invent a class, but Dick has given me all his material for this class. I am hoping that this will allow me to interact with many new believers.

Family: My family had a wonderful time over the holiday in Louisiana and Texas. I anticipated sadness & tears as we re-entered Pennsylvania. However, to the glory of God our family is truly beginning to adjust here recognizing this is where the Lord has called us. The children and my wife are doing very well, all to the glory of God!

Overall, I am excited about the visitors that are coming and staying at EBFC. I am anticipating a great year in 2013. I give all the glory to God!

Serving Christ,
Pastor Tim Gibson

POD (Pastor of Discipleship) Report – Dec 2012/Jan 2013

It certainly is an honor and privilege to read and study God's Holy Word as a part of my start for each day. It is here that I receive the encouragement, power, and wisdom for each day. In the past I have shared with you my trek through the Old Testament, and now as I begin my personal study of the New Testament, I share this very familiar passage from the Sermon on the Mount...

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:13-16, ESV)

As Jesus, the Son of God lays before this crowd what it's like to be a part of His Father's Kingdom, we notice that it centers around presenting ourselves publically to people in such a way that they are drawn to glorify God. This means that we redeem every moment to create a thirst for, and a lit path to God. In this way, we must live for people. People mattered to Jesus and people should matter to us, and therefore the way we live before them must also matter.

As I pondered this, I pray that I look at every opportunity for interaction with people both in and outside the church to have my words seasoned with salt and reflecting brightly the light of Jesus Christ so these people are not drawn and amazed at me, but our Heaven Father, giving Him praise and desiring to be a part of His kingdom!

With that in mind, here is a quick summary of some of the ministry opportunities from December 2012/January 2013:

Kids Crossing

- **Cross Time Sunday School:**
 - Praise the Lord we have a full complement of teachers for the time being!
 - **Curriculum change:** I plan to present "The Gospel Project" curriculum, to our Kid's Crossing leadership team at our upcoming meeting on January 21. Since we believe this is the right material to use for teaching our children, with their buy in, we plan to make the change by fall 2013. The following are still some of the challenges we will be working on to implement this change:
 - No Wednesday night program (replace with AWANA, etc.)
 - No VBS curriculum (continue to use Group's curriculum)
 - May be more costly (still doing evaluations on printed vs. digital)
- **Early Childhood (2&3 year-olds):** Praise the Lord for the response from the parents on filling the positions open for the 2nd service. Anne Christianson has enough volunteers, but is still waiting for a head teacher to start. We may have at least one head teacher candidate but she will need to complete her membership before she starts. To help move this along, I will be starting a membership class on Wednesday nights beginning on January 23.
- **Children's Church:** No change.
- **Wednesday Evening Programs:** Dave Lissy and his team, along with Megan Gascho and her team are doing an outstanding job instilling into our children the Bible theme of the week. Carol Burress has done a great job stepping in for Megan Gascho as she completes her pregnancy.

Student Ministry

- See Pastor Mark's report.

Adult Ministry

- **Adult Electives:** On January 13, we began our new Spring Adult Elective classes, which are as follows:
 - Revelation (Part 2 of 2) – Scott Holwick

- Old Testament Survey – Joe Maddock
- How People Change – Pastor Jason Hoy
- Romans (Part 2 of 2 maybe 3) – Pastor Dick Bickings
- Men's Ministry:
 - **Bethel Series:** We began again our Bethel NT study the week of January 6, 2013 with the wonderful, amazing study on the resurrection! I am deeply humbled and privileged to be apart of this series.
 - **Men's Bible Studies:**
 - Wednesday evenings from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, see Bethel Series above.
 - Saturday mornings from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM, see Bethel Series above.
 - Thursday mornings from 6:15 AM – 7:30 AM, This early morning group is currently studying I Thessalonians.
- Women's Ministry: Here is an update from Laura...

“We had an amazing Christmas banquet here on the 1st. We had over 90 women there in attendance and we also had 10 amazing men help to serve this year. Janie Hughes was our speaker and Bethany Cable was there for special music. We also had the Huies provide music as well. This was a beautiful night celebrating our Savior's birth.

We recently concluded our study in the book of Colossians, by Jessie Seneca. It was so exciting to come together at the end and here how the women's lives were changed studying this book of the Bible. Christ in us!! We had 3 women join us from New Covenant Community church and they will be joining us on the next study. The next study is called Missing pieces and it is by Jennifer Rothchild and we have about 25 women signed up for this and more to come. This is so exciting.

MOPS: This ministry is thriving as we have an amazing steering team this year. These women really know what it looks like to reflect Christ to the mothers at our meetings and to each other. Pastor Tim spoke at the Christmas gathering and this coming week we are tackling the mother-in-law theme. I have the chance to share what it looks like to honor our mother and father as adults. That this does not end with children. We continue to have new moms join us and we are doing a great job with reaching out to them.

We will resume with WM meetings next week 1/16. We are searching for someone to join our team. Jen Yeager has stepped off to be more helpful with faith weavers.

I love doing what I do. I constantly am feeling stretched and am humbled that God has placed me here to love and lead the women of our church.”

Discipleship Support

- **Kinship:** Kinship Groups are going well with renewed challenges of placing new people who desire to be apart of a Kinship Group. The Bob Gill/Neil Cowley group has split into two groups, the original group location will now be led by Otis Powell, and Bob Gill will be leading the new group with those from the original group that live closer to him. We are working on providing a leadership training class from which we hope to develop several new Kinship leaders.
- **Membership Class:** Because of the number of membership requests we have recently received, we will be running a 4-week, 2hr/week class beginning on January 23.

Other:

- Continued to meet with one man and one woman to counsel and encourage.
- Headed up the 1^{1/2}-2^{1/2} year-olds' MOPPETS group on Thursday mornings, twice a month.
- Facilitated Wednesday evening Prayer Meetings.

- Continued teaching The Epistle of Romans
- Continued teaching the Bethel Series NT on Saturday mornings.
- Continued course work for my AP410 Apologetics class as time permits. I should complete this class within the next couple weeks.

Goal Results for 2012:

- Seek to develop a catalyst for the growth and passion for corporate prayer. This will be done through teaching, preaching, and significant prayer events. We will begin this by March 2012 and continue through out the year. **100% Complete**
- Continue equipping the Kinship Shepherds for success through comprehensive training, and ongoing encouragement and resources. The goal to accomplish this is by September 2012. **10% Complete**
- Work with the current evangelism ministry team to encourage, support, and promote a passion for evangelism among our people. This will be done by using one day **Share Your Faith Workshops** and the 7-week **EV2** evangelism-training program, as often as deemed necessary. Along with equipping our people through training, events that represent real life *work of the ministry* application will be promoted such as, Candy Carnival, VBS, and visiting newcomers, shut-ins, or infrequent attendees. The goal to accomplish this is by December 2012. **80% Complete**
- Implement and staff our Assimilation process with Andy Brimer to assure discipleship growth and participation in ministry of all who attend our local church, by September 2012. **10% Complete**
- Upon the completion of the elder driven EBFC mission/vision development process, I will communicate these to all ministry leaders so as to provide a method to stay on task and evaluate their current ministries against EBFC's ministry philosophy. The goal to accomplish this is by August 2012. **80% Complete**
- Complete 10 credits toward my MDiv from TNARS (The North American Reformed Seminary). The goal to accomplish this is by December 2012. **30% Complete**

Goals for 2013:

- Evaluate the vision and purpose and help implement new visions and purposes if necessary, of each Discipleship Ministry so that they are aligned with the vision and purpose of Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church. The goal to accomplish this is by December 2013
- Continue equipping the Kinship Shepherds for success through comprehensive training, and ongoing encouragement and resources. The goal to accomplish this is by September 2013.
- Transition the Kid's Crossing Cross Time Sunday School curriculum from Group's FaithWeaver material, to The Gospel Project material. In so doing, it will also being necessary to provide an appropriate biblically focused, God glorifying Wednesday evening program to replace the current FaithWeaver Friends program. The goal to accomplish this is by September 2013.
- Continue to implement and staff our Assimilation process with Andy Brimer to assure discipleship growth and participation in ministry of all who attend our local church, by December 2013.
- Complete my BFC ordination process. The goal to accomplish this is by April 2013
- Complete 6 credits toward my MDiv from TNARS (The North American Reformed Seminary). The goal to accomplish this is by December 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dick Bickings,

Pastor of Discipleship

PASTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Elders Meeting – January 14, 2013

Our Vision: To introduce people to Jesus Christ and help them become devoted followers of him!

1. Shepherding

- Visits to hospitals and follow up with those struggling. The Tona's are getting hit especially hard at this time and many people are coming alongside of them. Continue praying for the Nye's and the Cowley's.
- Helped Barry Weber with the death of his brother. Funerals for Swannie Griffin's mother and Dee Sutton's uncle.
- Performed a wedding for Joe & Ashley (Sherer) Allen.

2. Counseling

- Counseling load is increasing: addictions, depression, suicide (family member), financial situations, marriage/divorce, grief, sexuality issues.
- SS Class started yesterday. Teaching *How People Change*.
- *Greifshare* and *DivorceCare* finished strong. Already have a list for the next season.
- Kinship is still studying Francis Chan's *The Forgotten God*. I am still counseling my neighbor who is in our kinship. Please pray for that situation.

3. Other

- Continue to attend Wednesday afternoon prayer meeting as time allows.
- Trying to attend Primetimer functions.
- Attended BFC Ministerium
- Finished *Preaching and Teaching Seminary* class

4. Goals

- Stay on top of people needs!
- Consult with other pastors about members who haven't been to EBFC for a year or more and either send a letter or change their status in Servant Keeper.
- New Year: Gather visitation team to organize visits to our shut-ins and those hospitalized
- Have curriculums ready for our next season of Support Groups.
- Promote and establish a marriage ministry using the AOM material depending on the evaluation of the initial group members. The first group includes: Lofthouses, Gills, Van Dorens, Thompsons. If we continue the ministry, they would be the leaders of subsequent cell groups (similar to Battlezone format).
- Actually comprehend all the material I am studying for *ST 811 Last Things (Eschatology)*.

Student Ministries Report - December 2012

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 ESV

As the year came to a close and we launched into the new year, we as a youth staff took some time at our last meeting to discuss what went well last year, what wasn't that good, and what God had us to accomplish in 2013. What are we to be all about as a student ministry? We agreed on a number of important things, but we ended by looking at 1 Corinthians 15 and realizing that more than anything else, we want students to know Jesus Christ, who was crucified and rose so we might have new life. We don't want to ever get distracted from this very important task. Paul said it was the most important thing and the focus of his ministry - we hope to follow his model as we serve families at Ebenezer.

Teaching

- **Middle School**

We have begun a new series on God's justice, sin and forgiveness, and the Last Days. This is our final series in our CoreTruth curriculum.

- **High School**

We have one more lesson in the book of Ephesians, and this will tie in nicely to Sno Glo, which has Ephesians as its theme.

- **Sunday School**

We are still teaching through Faithweaver, and are currently going through the life of Jesus. Pastor Dick and I are reviewing another curriculum possibility that is called "The Gospel Project". My wife continues to teach the middle school girls, while Pat Barry and Shawn S. have the middle school boys.

Shepherding

- Met with mom who is concerned for her son.
- Met with two different dads whose daughters are struggling right now.
- Doing pre-marital counseling with a couple who will be married next summer.
- Regularly discipling a youth dad who is really growing in his faith.
- Had breakfast with a teen guy who I have been mentoring over the years.

Staff

- Had a joint staff meeting at our house.

- Attended one of our youth staff member's mom's funeral.

Campus Ministry

- Am praying about an opportunity that has arisen for a chaplaincy to Lehigh University's wrestling team. Pray that God gives direction, and opens the door if it is His will. I am in the process of organizing a meeting with FCA and the head coach of Lehigh's wrestling team.

Other

- Met with another youth pastor to talk about philosophy of youth ministry, and training volunteers.
- Met with the local gathering of youth pastors (Unite)
- Met with BFC youth pastors.
- Attended Men's Breakfast and had the pleasure of leading in worship
- We saw a few students baptized, which was super exciting!
- Attended and participated in Budget Meeting
- Enjoyed the elder gathering at the Gibsons
- Attended a church staff informational meeting about life insurance.
- Took vacation time from the 24th through the end of the year, and it was a wonderful time with my family.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Culton